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PACIFIC FRUIT EXPRESS COMPANY

July News Letter

PAC FRUIT EXPRESS CO.
SACRAMENTO CALIF.

San Francisco, July 24, 1957

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ALL P.F.E. EMPLOYES:

P.F.E. Loadings

	1957			1956		
	PFE Cars	Foreigns	Total	PFE Cars	Foreigns	Total
June	28,868	5,108	33,976	33,363	8,317	41,680
Jan.-June	160,134	11,487	171,621	174,149	16,927	191,076

This has been the lowest loading figure for June since 1942 due principally to adverse growing conditions, poor markets for some commodities, and increased truck activities. Loadings have shown some improvement in July, but estimates as a whole for the second half of year indicate they will be below same period last year.

CAR SITUATION

As anticipated, on-line supplies were sharply reduced during last half of June and it became necessary to request foreign car assistance to maintain adequate working supply in loading areas. By July 15th, reserves were exhausted and additional foreign cars were ordered through Missouri River junctions and from connections in California. To obtain maximum efficiency of P.F.E. fleet, use of foreign equipment will be regulated to provide minimum needs. Continued close attention to distribution matters is essential.

CROP CONDITIONS

Along Union Pacific:

In Northwest District frozen food shipments were in heavy volume during first half of July after which movement diminished somewhat but should continue in steady volume at lower level. Miscellaneous items, including vegetables and tree fruits, will move on a seasonable basis, comparable with last year.

In Idaho potatoes are under way in western Idaho where harvesting and shipping will increase steadily through the month. Fruit crops, other than peaches which were hurt by severe winter, continue to progress satisfactorily.

Utah fruit crops appear to be in good condition with a good harvest indicated.

In Eastern District the Colorado vegetable crop is in good condition and should provide fair volume shipping last half of July.

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San Francisco, July 24, 1957

ALL P.F.E. EMPLOYEES:

P.F.E. Loadings

	1957			1956	
	P.F.E. Cars	Foreign	Total	P.F.E. Cars	Foreign	Total
June	28,868	5,108	33,976	32,363	8,812	41,180
Jan.-June	160,134	11,487	171,621	174,119	16,927	191,076

This has been the lowest loading figure for June since 1946, due principally to adverse grazing conditions, poor markets for some commodities, and increased truck activities. Loadings have shown some improvement in July, but estimates as a whole for the second half of year indicate they will be below same period last year.

CAR REPAIRS

As anticipated, on-June supplies were sharply reduced during last half of June and it became necessary to request foreign railroad assistance to maintain adequate working supply in loading areas. July 15th, reservations were released and additional foreign cars ordered through Missouri River junctions and from connections in California. To obtain maximum efficiency of P.F.E. fleet, needed foreign equipment will be requested to operate minimum necessary. Continued close attention to distribution matters is essential.

CROP CONDITIONS

Along Union Pacific:

In Northwest District fruit and shipments were light. Heavy volume during first half of July after which movement diminished somewhat but about normal volume is steady volume at lower level. Miscellaneous items, including vegetables and tree fruits, will move on a seasonable basis compared with last year.

In Idaho potato areas and the western Idaho where harvesting and shipping will start about August 1st, conditions are good to prospects satisfactorily.

Utah fruit crops appear to be in good condition with a good harvest indicated.

In Eastern District the Colorado vegetable crop is in good condition and should provide their volume shipping last half of July.

Frozen foods, packing house products, and miscellaneous items from Missouri River Centers are in normal volume comparable with last year.

Along Southern Pacific:

Oregon: Rogue River fruit crops and Klamath potatoes are progressing satisfactorily. Current loading consists of frozen foods, canned goods, and miscellaneous items.

Northern California cantaloupe movement from Arvin District passed peak July 12th and will decline steadily balance of the month. Huron District melons reached peak volume July 15th and, with West Side now underway, a heavy volume melon movement should continue from San Joaquin Valley through the month. Tree fruits consisting of nectarines, plums, peaches, and pears are moving in steady seasonal volume. Merced tomatoes are moving in good volume which should continue into August. Bakersfield potato harvest is practically completed, while Fresno District tubers are in full production with volume loading to continue through July 25th. Salinas lettuce, carrots, and miscellaneous vegetables are moving consistently in amounts comparable with last year. Gravenstein apples have started from Sebastopol. Lake and Mendocino pear crops are in good condition but will not be ready for harvest until August.

Southern California. Crops from Desert Areas are about completed. Chino-Ontario potatoes are underway and will continue through the month. Citrus loading from Riverside-Colton District and from Oxnard-Santa Paula area is in high seasonal volume. Miscelleneous vegetables are moving consistently from Guadalupe-Santa Maria District.

T&NO: Perishable season is practically completed, with watermelons the last of the large producing crops nearing an end. Loading for next several weeks will consist of bananas and miscellaneous commodities.

K. V. PLUMMER

Frozen foods, packing house products, and miscellaneous items from Missouri River Centers are in normal volume comparable with last year.

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Oregon: Rogue River fruit crops and Klamath potatoes are processing satisfactorily. Current loading consists of frozen foods, canned goods, and miscellaneous items.

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TEXAS: Perishable season is practically completed, with watermelons the last of the large producing crops nearing an end. Loading for next several weeks will consist of bananas and miscellaneous commodities.

K. V. PLUMMER